

Name:

Date:

Class:

Essay Final Draft Rubric and Guidelines

Directions: Please read through the guidelines for the final draft for your Kids' Book Essay. The guidelines reflect the strategies we have discussed to make a strong essay, as well as the expectations for responding to the original prompt. For your final draft, you should:

- Write an **introduction** to your essay that gives them a glimpse of what the essay will be about by answering and explaining the questions from the outline.
- Write **two body paragraphs**; each one should go in-depth on one of the major ideas of the essay (i.e. one focuses on *The Sneetches* and the other on *Freedom Summer*). Those paragraphs should include:
 - Two pieces of **evidence** (i.e. *specific quotes* from the texts)
 - **Tell-me-more sentences** to explain how the evidence connects to the main idea of the paragraph and your argument
 - **Conclusion sentences** to wrap up the idea of each paragraph
- **A conclusion paragraph** that identifies your preference between the books and wraps up your ideas from the essay
- You **answer the question** from the prompt accurately and fully
- Your ideas **are organized clearly** and are easy to understand, including the use of transitions and/or transition sentences.
- You **use correct grammar, mechanics, and spelling** (including using quotes correctly)
- Engaging title (i.e. not "Kids' Book Essay" or "Sneetches vs. Freedom Summer")
- **Type the draft:** size 12 font; Times New Roman, Calibri, Cambria, Arial Fonts; **double-spaced**; heading with name/date/class.

RUBRIC FOR FINAL DRAFT

| | Excellent | Good | Needs Improvement | Needs a lot of improvement or is missing |
|--|-----------|------|-------------------|--|
| You wrote a proper and engaging introduction | 4 | 3.5 | 3 | 2 (or lower) |
| You begin each body paragraph with a clear topic sentence that relates to your overall argument and indicates the main idea of the paragraph to the reader. | 4 | 3.5 | 3 | 2 (or lower) |
| You included two pieces of specific, relevant evidence (i.e. quotes from the texts) in each body paragraph (four quotes total) to back up your arguments | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 (or lower) |
| You explained each piece of evidence clearly and thoroughly using tell-me-more sentences; those sentences help prove how your evidence backs your arguments | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 (or lower) |
| You wrapped up the main idea in each body paragraph with a conclusion sentence | 2 | 1.5 | 1 | 0 |
| Your conclusion answers the question of which kids' book is more effective, based on the prompt and/or wraps up the ideas discussed in the essay | 4 | 3 | 2.5 | 2 (or lower) |
| You organized the essay in a logical way, using the structures we have discussed in class and as presented in the outline to create a clear, coherent draft. This includes effective transitions between ideas and evidence. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 (or lower) |
| You answered all parts of the prompt thoroughly and completely | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 (or lower) |
| You completed the essay with few, if any, grammar, spelling, or mechanical mistakes -- including the use of the first or second person in your writing. | 6 | 5 | 4.5 | 3 (or lower) |
| You included an interesting title | 2 | 1.5 | 1 | 0 |

Total: _____/50 points

Extra Credit for printing off your essay? _____

Missing points for not turning in your outline or for lateness? _____